Reply to Office Action of August 6, 2008

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1-21 (Cancelled)
- 22. (new): A method of transferring pulp from a treatment performed in at least so-called medium consistency to screening while separating gas from said pulp and diluting the pulp to a screening consistency, comprising the steps of;

separating gas from the at least medium consistency pulp by means of a rotor; pumping the pulp to screening; and

diluting pulp after the gas separation and prior to screening consistency.

- 23. (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein the treatment performed in at least medium consistency is oxygen delignification.
- 24. (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein the treatment performed in at least medium consistency is washing following oxygen delignification.
- 25. (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein said treatment is washing, comprising the step of diluting the pulp from the discharge consistency of the washing treatment to medium consistency.
- 26. (New): A method according to claim 25, wherein the dilution is performed with assistance of a bottom scraper (22).
- 27. (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein the gas separation is performed by means of a turbulence-forming rotor (32).
- 28. (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein the gas separation is performed by means of a pump (26) provided with a rotor capable of separating gas from the pulp.

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- 29. (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein the pulp is diluted from said at least medium consistency to a consistency higher than the screening consistency.
- 30. (New): A method according to claim 22, wherein the pulp is diluted to a consistency of about 1-3%.
- 31. (New): An arrangement for transferring pulp from a treatment in at least medium consistency to screening in low consistency, the arrangement comprising at least a pulp treatment apparatus operating in at least so-called medium consistency, means for separating gas, a dilution apparatus, and a pump (26) for transferring the pulp to screening (50), comprising rotor means (26; 32) for separating gas arranged between the treatment (5) and said dilution apparatus (28), and the pump (26) arranged between the treatment (5) and the screening (50).
- 32. (New): An arrangement for transferring pulp as recited in claim 31, wherein said pulp treatment apparatus (5) is a washing apparatus.
- 33. (New): An arrangement for transferring pulp as recited in claim 31, wherein said pulp treatment apparatus (5) is pressurized drum washer, suction drum washer, wire press or a wash press.
- 34 (New): An arrangement for transferring pulp as recited in claim 31, wherein the pulp treatment apparatus (5) is an oxygen delignification stage.
- 35 (New): An arrangement for transferring pulp as recited in claim 31, wherein said gas separating means is a centrifugal pump (26) provided with a rotor capable of separating gas from medium consistency pulp.
- 36. (New): An arrangement for transferring pulp as recited in claim 31, wherein said gas separating means is a turbulence-forming rotor (32) arranged in a drop leg (30) prior to the pump (26).
- 37. (New): An arrangement for transferring pulp as recited in claim 31, wherein said dilution apparatus is a rotary or static mixer (28) arranged downstream of said gas separating rotor means (26; 32).

<u>PATENT</u>

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38. (New): An arrangement for transferring pulp as recited in claim 31, wherein said dilution apparatus is a centrifugal pump.